SON OF GENERAL GRANT TALKS ON MODERN WARFARE

An Interview With Mr. Carpenter He Discusses Warfare, the Philippines and Army.

STORIES OF HIS BOYHOOD

Relates Experiences at Vicksburg and Tells How It Feels to be Shot—Army in 1904.

By Frank G. Carpenter.

(Special Correspondent of The Times-Dispatch.)

CHICAGO, ILL., Aug. 20.—I met General Fred Grant this morning in the army headquarters, in the Pullman building. He is in charge of the troops here, and wears, as the regulations require, the uniform of his rank. As we talked other uniformed officers entered from time to time for orders or to have the general pass upon the military business which had been entrusted to them and our conversation took place during the intervals of this work.

General Grant has his mind well in hand. He jumps from one thing to another without friction, and, returning, takes up the first where he left off. I remember a former interview I had with him under circumstances peculiarly trying. It was when he was one of the New York police commissioners, and as such was acting as judge in the famous Sherry dinner scandal trial. At this dinner a fair but frail actress had been called in by some of the swells of the fast set and in light attire had danced a nautch dance before them to the horror of Christian New York. While the testimony was being taken General Grant talked with me about his father, giving me graphic descriptions of his life at home and on the battle field and at the same time keeping the witnesses nad crowd in check. He carried on the two lines of thought simultaneously; and his talk was a most excellent one.

"GROWS DAILY MORE LIKE HIS FATHER."
General Fred. Grant, in 1904.

Fred Grant and His Father.

General Fred Grant grows daily more like his father. He has the same stocky frame, the same plain, honest features and the same blunt manner. He is just as unassuming as his father was, and he has much the same quiet common sense. He talks but little, but, once started, his words are full of meat, and his experiences have been such that he views the world in the broad.

General Fred Grant is like his father in his fondness for military life. His father was his hero, and it was at his own request that General Grant took him as a boy of twelve to the battle field, and later on sent him to West Point. Little Fred was with his father during a great part of the war. He took part in five great battles, was twice shot and had many narrow escapes. He was on the flagship of Admiral Porter when the boats ran the batteries at Vicksburg, and he was wounded during the Vicksburg campaign. His wound was in the leg. It was only a flesh wound, but his leg is still paralyzed where the bullet struck. He told me once how it felt when the ball cut him, saying that the first sensation was that of a great blow, following which was a pain like a bee sting. He thought at first that he was killed, and upon his showing his wound to one of the officers the officer told him to move his toes. This he did. Whereupon the officer said he was not badly hurt. Young Grant thereupon wrapped a cloth about his leg and remained in his saddle until the battle was over.

Fred Grant in the Philippines.

After his graduation at West Point General Fred Grant was assigned to the 4th Cavalry and rose to be its lieutenant colonel. After ten years' service he resigned and afterward became minister to Austria. He re-entered the army at the beginning of the war with Cuba, served in Porto Rico for a year and then went to the Philippines. I met him when he was leaving Porto Rico, and afterward visited him at Angels, in Luzon. He there had a large military district under his charge, and we traveled over it together, visiting his several posts. Over mountain and valley, with a band of scouts in front of us to draw the fire from Filipinos in ambush, we rode, passing through many towns and villages, visiting camps in the wilds of the mountains and fording rivers. The ride was a hard one, for much of it was through the beds of streams so heavily wooded that we could scarcely see the sky for the branches overhead. At other times the grass was higher than our heads as we rode through it on our horses; I remember I had to hold my hands in front of my face to keep the grass blades from scratching it.

The trip almost wore me out; but General Fred Grant throve upon it and was fresher at the end than at the beginning. That was in 1899, when he was about fifty years of age. He is now fifty-five and seems to be younger than ever. He succeeded well in the Philippines. He was engaged in several battles and in the guerilla warfare, which followed the active fighting. He was the first to bring his district to accept civil government. After I left him, he was sent to northern Luzon, then to southern Luzon and later to Samar and Leyte, where he received the surrender of the last of the insurgent forces. About a year ago he returned to the United States and took charge of the Department of Texas. Since then he has been sent to Chicago.

Philippines as Fred Grant Sees Them.

I asked General Grant to give me his opinion of the future of the Philippines based upon his stay there. He replied:

"I think the islands a valuable possession and that they will eventually be an important self-sustaining colony of the United States. They are of large extent and their soil is very rich.

"So far the political conditions have been such that there has been but little incentive to develop the island. Under the Spanish rule both church and state worked against rather than for the good of the common people. Wages were low and the opportunities of the poor so few that there was but little incentive to work and practically no hope of a poor man becoming rich by his labor. This is now changing. The projects under way to build railroads will result in cheap transportation and there will be a rearrangement of values all round."

"Will the people ever make good American citizens?"

"I think they will, although it will be a long time before they will be able to govern themselves. If their government was left to them as they now are, revolutions would be of frequent occurrence, and I doubt if the people would not soon be as badly off as they were in the days of the Spaniards. They need education, and this we are giving them. We are protecting their interest in every possible way, and I think they begin to realize it."

The Riches of Luzon.

"Do you think the islands are naturally rich?"

"Yes. Nearly all have excellent soil and there is much magnificent timber. Luzon has valleys which will raise sugar and rice, and these crops might be greatly increased by scientific cultivation. At present the farming is done in the rudest way, some of the sugar mills being operated by water power or by water buffaloes. There is also much undeveloped country, and the mountains are said to contain valuable minerals. The islands have never been carefully prospected. As to the best forests, they have never been touched. The woods are of many kinds, including some which will take a polish like mahogany.

"One of the great values of the islands," continued General Grant, "is in their location. They lie right on the trade route to Australia, China, Japan and India, and are thus a good base for pushing our trade in the far east. I see no reason why they should not grow more and more valuable as time goes on."

The War and Its Lessons.

I here turned the conversation to the Russian-Japanese war, but this General Grant refused to discuss, saying that he was an officer of the United States government, which held an absolutely neutral position, and it would, therefore, be improper for him to criticise either army or to discuss the possibilities of its success or failure. Said he:

"We are friendly to both the Japanese and Russians, and we have been so far many years. We deprecate the war they are waging, but we do not feel that we have the right to interfere with either nation nor to criticise it."

"But, general, can you not point out some of the peculiar features of their warfare. This is the first war of the twentieth century, and it is being waged after twentieth century methods, have not many new inventions been brought into use and new ways of fighting developed?"

"If what we see in the papers is true I might say yes to that," said General Grant. "But we have no reports as yet that can be absolutely relied upon, and none upon which one would dare to base an opinion. New and powerful explosives seem to have been discovered, the wireless telegraph has been operated for the first time and other new things are, it is said, in use. We shall get the facts as to such matters through the information bureaus of the army and navy, but that will not be before the war is over. It will then be time enough to express an opinion."

"What is the present condition of the United States army?"

"It is steadily improving. Our soldiers are better trained from year to year. They have better habits, there is less drunkenness and they have higher ideals."

"How about profanity, General Grant? It is said that the United States soldier is the wickedest swearer on earth."

"I don't believe that," said General Grant. "I know we have many soldiers who use profane language, but they are individual cases. There are many who do not swear at all. Profanity is, as you know, prohibited by the army regulations."

General Grant Not Profane.

At this point the conversation turned to profanity among the officers, and I asked General Grant as to whether the stories that his father used profane language were true. He replied that they were not and that he had never heard his father use a profane word. Said he:

"My father once told me that he had never uttered an oath in his life. I know that he did not use even the ordinary expletives and that he was averse to slang. I once heard him say 'thunder and lightning' and once or twice 'thunder,' but as he drew toward the latter part of his life he did not use even such expressions. He was a man of much natural refinement. He never told a vulgar story nor would he listen to one if he could help it."

"Then you think our soldiers are growing better?"

"Yes. The character of our army always improves when the army has something to do. Since the Spanish war we have had our hands full, and there has been plenty of active service. Army life is now busier than ever. The people have a higher regard for the soldier than they have had during the latter years of peace, and the soldiers feel it. The profession of the common soldier is more desirable, and I think I may say we are making better soldiers from year to year."

Young Men and the Army.

"Would you advise a young man to go into the army?"

"That would depend much on the man, upon his character, his condition and his ambitions," said General Grant. "If he is anxious to make a fortune the army is no place for him. If he has natural business ability he can perhaps do better outside, but if he has a desire for the service and is anxious to improve himself in it, I think it offers many advantages. The common soldier is better paid, better fed and better clad than the majority of his same rank outside the army. He gets his lodging, food and raiment free, and has $13.50 a month, out of which he has to pay only his wash bills. If he is a good man he can make a great deal more outside that. So you see his condition is by no means a bad one."

"Has he any chance to become an officer?"

"Yes, indeed. The army is always advancing those of the privates who are worthy. There are regular examinations for promotions, and the young man who would rise can do so if he has it in him."

"How many soldiers have we now in the army?"

"About 59,000."

"Is that enough?" I asked.

"We could use more, and when the fortifications, now building, are completed we shall require more."

"How about the military spirit among our young men; does it grow?"

"Yes. It has become associated with the schools, both public and private. We are drilling school cadets by the tens of thousands every year all over the country, and are training them in case we should need them in the wars of the future. The militia is very strong everywhere. Indeed, we have now a vast amount of reserve material upon which we can call should it be needed. The American, trained or untrained, is, you know, always ready to enter the army if his country needs him. In this respect the United States has a strong fighting machine. If all our men from eighteen to forty-four, which should be considered the militia age, were in the army, we should, in round numbers, have 16,000,000 fighting men. Of these about 14,000,000 would be white, and the balance colored.

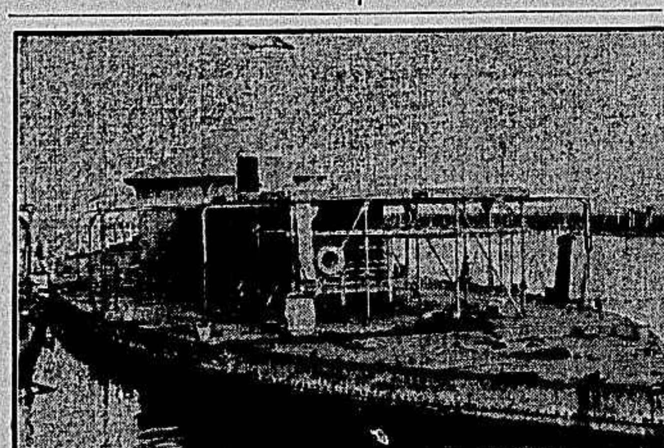
"How about the military systems of Europe, where every boy is required to spend so much of his life in the army? Would they be good for this country?"

"I do not think our people would consent to that, and our geographical situation is such that we do not need it. There are, however, advantages in the military systems of Europe. The armies there are great schools in which all the young men are taught obedience to law and good citizenship. They are taught sanitation and the laws of health, and by the exercises and drill forced upon them the nation individually and collectively is greatly improved. These are some of the compensations for the loss to the nation of the work of the young men for several years. I do not wish to say that the system ought to be adopted here."

Recruits for Our Army.

"Does the army have much trouble in securing recruits, general?"

"No, there are always men who want to be soldiers. We treat our soldiers better than almost any other nation, and we have little trouble in recruiting. When the times are hard the applications increase."



THE CANONICUS STILL AT LEAGUE ISLAND.

OF SERVICE NO LONGER

Vessels That Revolutionized the World's Sea Fighters Sold by the Government.

OLD MONITORS BROKEN UP

History of These Old Wardogs Inseparably Connected With the Late Civil War.

PHILADELPHIA, PA., Aug. 20.—Four of the five old war dogs—monitors they are called to distinguish them from other types of vessels—have now been taken from the League Island Navy Yards in Pennsylvania, where they have been never failing attractions to visitors, and are now being transformed into "old iron."

The Canonicus, the one monitor still remaining at the navy yard, was offered for sale by the Government at auction along with four others, the Jason, the Nahant, the Lehigh and the Montauk, a few months ago. The appraised value of the Canonicus was $15,000 and of each of the others $10,000. The Jason, and the Nahant were bought by L. E. Hunt, and are now being broken up at the foot of Laurel Street, Philadelphia. The Montauk was bought by Frank Samuels, and is now at Richmond, Va., and the Lehigh was bought by J. T. Potter, of Fall River, Mass.

These rusting old gun boats are survivors of the famous fleet of monitors that in '63 and '64 did such execution in our Southern waters. Superseded by modern design, their days of usefulness over, they were condemned by the authorities at Washington, and sold for old iron at public auction. Somewhere on their time-corroded sides may be found their names, the Canonicus, the old Nahant, the renowned Montauk, the Lehigh, and plucky little Jason.

The boats were built in 1862, immediately after the Monitor, in its celebrated struggle with the Merrimac, had shown the practicability of this type of vessel, and in bringing the war to a close they performed invaluable services.

Era in Naval Architecture.

Unassuming in appearance as are these flat-decked single-turreted discolored boats, their building marked an era in naval architecture, and their success in action revolutionized the navies of the world. They furnished the type of modern coast-service iron-clad and a system of armament which has been followed in the most powerful gun-boats of recent construction. The idea of armored vessels for war has through familiarity become trite, but it is in fact only a short period of time since their introduction into general use. The year 1850 marked the decline of unarmored battleships. Thenceforth the nations experimented with metal armaments.

During the period of the Civil War began that remarkable development in naval ordnance which is still going on. The first productions of the designer were clumsy and unwieldy, being the usual wooden hull overlaid with iron plate.

Somewhat of this build was the Merrimac, the Confederate ram that carried devastation among the wooden frigates at the mouth of the James River in March, 1862. Congress had, however, at the outbreak of the war, appointed a special navy board to determine upon types of ironclads to be built for immediate service, and it was on that very eventful 8th of March when the Merrimac was awaiting the dawn of another day to resume its work of destruction that the Monitor, one of the types selected and just finished, came into Hampton Roads, in the teeth of a high gale, and also lay low till daylight appeared. How, after a five-hour engagement, the terrible Merrimac retreated before the "cheese box on a raft," is too well known to need repeating. Suffice it to say the superiority of the monitor-type over all then existing models of warships was established.

Ordered an Entire Fleet.

Congress at once ordered a fleet of like construction, and in that fleet were our old friends, the five veterans now in their turn displaced by improved models.

Each of these monitors presented to the eye when afloat a simple platform, sharp at both ends, and bearing in its centre a round Martello tower about twenty feet in diameter and ten feet in height, made as is the rest of the vessel of heavy iron. It constituted a bomb-proof revolving fort in which cannon were mounted, making these the first revolving turreted vessels in existence. Great was the consternation on the decks of an unsuspecting opponent when the mysterious citadels first began to rotate and from their guns to hurl ponderous shot in quick succession.

The hull of each of these vessels is shallow, being not much more than 8 feet in depth with a flat bottom. It is about 124 feet in length and 34 feet in greatest width at top. On this hull rests another, five feet in height, that extends over the lower one about three feet all around excepting at the ends, where it projects twenty-five feet, by which protection is afforded the anchor, propeller and rudder. The whole is built of three-inch iron and is very bouyant. The exposed parts are guarded by a wall of white oak thirty inches in thickness, on which is laid armor six inches in thickness. A shot to strike the lower hull would have to pass through twenty-five feet of water, and then strike an inclined plane at an angle. The tough little dwarfs in their encounters were pelted with masses of iron, sometimes weighing 200 pounds, sent at a velocity of 200 feet a second. Such projectiles could strike the deck and tower without harming it, and conical bolts would glance off as pebbles would fly from solid granite.

Altogether these cheese boxes on rafts presented a formidable front to the foe, and when in 1863 Admiral Dupont had orders to seize and occupy important points on the Southern coast, he was enabled to push the strange little craft into almost every bay, river and inlet of South Carolina, Georgia and Florida.

Destruction of Nashville.

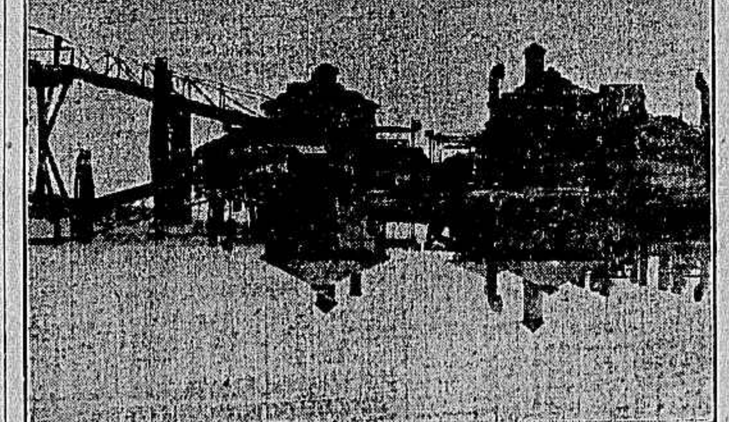
The most widely noted engagements into which any of the condemned monitors entered was the destruction of the Blockade runner at Nashville by the Montauk, and the attack on Fort McAllister and other defences of Charleston harbor by the combined fleet; the Montauk, Nahant and Lehigh all being prominent in the latter attacks.

The destruction of the Nashville on February 27, 1863, was a most brilliant piece of work. Commander Worden, of the Motauk, moved his little craft close up to a line of piles where with his guns he could reach the cruiser across a marsh at a distance of 1200 yards. So accurate was the range for this beautiful exhibition of target firing that in twenty minutes the Nashville was on fire, aft, forward and amidships, in spite of the fog that at one time obstructed the view. In fifty minutes the flames reached the magazine and the doomed vessel blew up. The Confederates were so excited and exasperated by the audacious attack of the monitor that the fire from Fort McAllister was wild, and only five shots struck the Montauk. When the monitor was retiring, however, a hole was blown in her bottom by a torpedo. Worden promptly ran her ashore and had pieces of boiler iron bolted over the wound and then continued at his station.

In one attack on Fort McAllister, the Montauk was struck thirteen times without any of her crew being injured, and at another time she was struck forty-seven times, still escaping serious injury.

During the recent war with Spain the five old war dogs were attached to the auxiliary naval force, but none of them had any chance to get into active service. They were primarily coast rangers and defenders and are not fitted for deep sea excursions. Moreover, modern ways are different from the ways of the hoary old veterans. They had won their laurels and were privileged to look on the fray from afar. The Montauk kept guard at Portland, Me.; the Lehigh watched over Boston; Fisher's Island and Tomkinsville were safe in the keeping of the Jason and Nahant; while the Canonicus hovered about the defences of Philadelphia.

The vessels are each of 1,875 tons displacement except the Canonicus, which is 2,100 tons. Their designer was John Ericsson, and they cost the Government $2,304,997.



THE MONTAUK AND LEHIGH.
The Montauk on the left is at Richmond, and the Lehigh at Fall River, Mass.

IF YOU DO NOT KNOW YOU OUGHT TO KNOW THAT

The many architects and contractors and building supply people who hustled off to Baltimore the day after the great fire, expecting that city to rise phoenix-like from its ruins and with the supposed alacrity of that most expeditious bird, must indeed be sorely disappointed. Since the fire there have been but 196 buildings started or even projected in the burnt district. Of that number but one is a sixteen story structure, one a seven story, six six story, and thirty-five five stories, while all the others tre but one, two and three story affairs and the general trend of all these buildings is toward about as cheap construction as the city will permit.

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The lighting of back alleys, side streets and slums in some of our principal cities has reduced crime something like forty per cent. in those formerly exceedingly vicious districts. There is nothing like a bright light to disturb viciousness, take the publicity given to certain abuses of the telegraph systems of late, the bringing to light of certain secret deals of some of the big trusts; all those things tend to the betterment of our morals—"More light on everything" may well be the cry of the real reformer.

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The consumption of sugar in European countries has increased 30 per cent. in the last five years, a ratio of increase way beyond population or the use of any other commodity.

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We read of Russo-Japanese battles and the "terrible" loss of life accompanying them. Casualties of 5,000 are about the most severe that we read of. Forty years ago such figures would have paled into utter insignificance. At Gettysburg 54,000 men were killed, wounded, or counted missing; 25,000 at Antietam, 28,000 at Chancellorsville, 33,000 at Chickamauga, 23,000 at Shiloh, 22,000 at Stone River, 19,000 at Fredericksburg, while affairs in which 5,000 poor fellows were killed were called skirmishes.

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During 1904 the French Government has expended and will expend for national defenses and colonies $212,000,000, for public instruction and arts $46,000,000, for public works, commerce, industries and agriculture $60,000,000, and for pensions, public debt, reimbursements and incidentals enough to bring the grand total up to $688,000,000.

* * *

France has 464,566 saloons to supply the wants of her 39,000,000 people. Her consumption of alchohol is 4.81 gallons per capita, per year. The United States consumes 1.74, and Canada 0.51 gallons, the least of all countries.

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The area of the land purchased from France in 1803, the "Louisiana Purchase," was 875,025 square miles, 55,000 square miles greater than the area of the original 13 States and but 10,000 square miles less than the combined area of the United Kingdom, France, Belgium, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, and Switzerland, in which countries there is a total population of [illegible] people. In the States forming this Louisiana Purchase there are now 15,-000,000 people. They produce sixty per cent. of the wheat raised in the United States, 43 per cent. of the corn crop, and 40 per cent. of the oat crop, 30 per cent. of the wood product. This latter, valued [illegible] will alone suffice to re-imburse the country for the original purchase of the territory.

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Usually the total exports of our manufactures are less than half as great as the total exports of agricultural products, but during the last month of May the value of manufactures exported was $38,-694,561, against $37,891,000, the value of the agricultural products exported. Our total exports of manufactures for the fiscal year just completed will exceed the $434,-000,000 of 1900, which until now has been the high water mark of our manufacturing exports.

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The loom was used by the Egyptians in 2500 B. C.

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The seas around the British coast are being exhausted of fish, a grave matter for the English. Little by little is their possibility of supplying their foor wants from domestic sources being lessened.

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It is a matter of record that the greatest number of suicides happened in June, the fewest in September, and more than one-half betwen 6 A. M. and noon.

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Twenty-five feet is about the limit at which divers can see under water.

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The Chinese make the claim and show records in proof thereof that Buddhist priest crossed the Pacific Ocean some time during the fifth century, discovered this continent, and upon his return described his adventures and made a report of his discovery to his government, and some day Chinese scholars may prove the priority of claim to this country by fight of discovery. Under the leadership of the progressive Japanese and allied with India and other discontented Oriental subjects of European powers they may some day be in position to give some weight to that claim. There is no knowing what this Russo-Jananese war may lead to.

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Cranberries are good for erysipelas, blackberries as a tonic and tomatoes as a powerful aperient for the liver.

The Dislikes of Animals.

Not only is it true that animals, both domestic and wild, show decided preferences of certain persons and a strong dislike to other individuals, but whole races of creatures often show a universal hatred toward other species.

To fight like "cats and dogs" has become a proverb, and we must admit that there is abundant basis for its truth. In domestic cats this is doubtless an inherited instinct, which in one of its larger relatives we can verify to-day. In India the tiger is king, almost. Deep in the jungles the tigress makes her lair, and the cubs have few enemies. Bear or tiger cat, when they inadvertently come across the lair trail of the great striped one, back trail, and rapidly, too. It is doubtful if even the great python would disturb one of the little furry kittens. But the packs of wild dogs are without fear, and would kill and eat the cubs and defy the parent when she returned. Well she knows this, and also that, although she might slay a dozen, yet the others would pin her down, careless if they died or no. So a tiger in captivity will scrutinize a wolf without much show of anger, but pity the dog which ever comes within reach, and if she cannot get at him her wrath of memory will vent itself in howls and fierce endeavors on the bars of her cage.

A leopard, which lives so much among the trees and could so easily escape the attacks of wild dogs, has no instinctive hate, although a dog is a tidbit which would be by no means despised. This fact is well known to dogs, which show their fear of these arboreal feline, while they will mob tigers and other terrestial cats. Pumas come under the same head as leopards, and are held in as great respect by dogs.

In zoos the animals generally show a dislike to children and cripples; in the first instance, doubtless, because they are teased by the youngsters, and in the second place because of the strange horror and hate which many animals show of the abnormal or conditions out of the usual, for discriminating between which they have remarkable ability.

Monkeys hate negroes; but this dislike of dark-skinned men is not confined to the above-mentioned class of animals. It is said that when Mr. Hagenbeck's Somalis were at the Central Palace they were invited one Sunday to see the zoo. There was nothing to which the most sensitive European could object in the appearance of these free, half-Arab tribesmen; but when the dark men entered the lion house there was an uproar. The animals were furious; they roared with rage. The apes and monkeys were frightened and angry; the antelopes were alarmed, and even the phlegmatic wild cattle were excited. They recognized their natural enemies—the dark-skinned men who had hunted them for centuries in the jungles and the bush, and with whom their own parents did battle when they were captured and carried off captive in the Nubian desert.—New York Evening Post.

Her Ruling Passion.

"The next house I build I'll leave out all the woodwork."

"Why so?"

"Because at home now every time I get a poor dinner my wife says, 'There was no time to bother with the cooking, Henry, we had to wash all the woodwork to-day.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

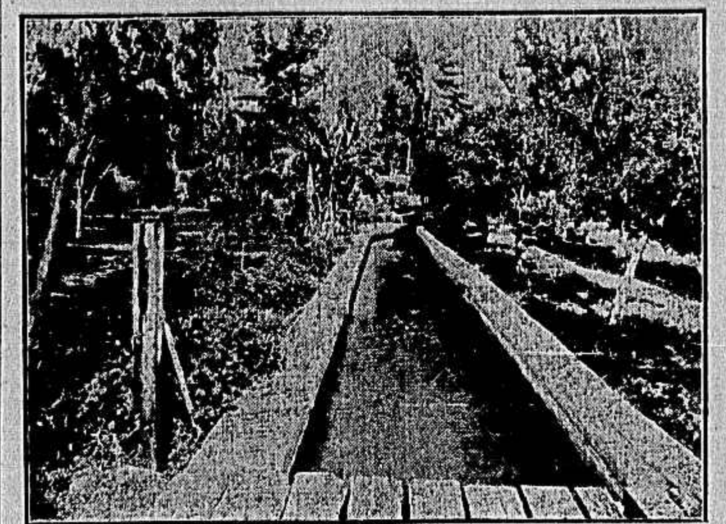
Short Term Empress.

Binks—O, yes, she carries herself like an empress, and bosses me around all she likes now; but wait until we are married, and then see how she'll fawn and cringe.

Winks—To you?

Binks—No; to the servant girl.—New York Weekly.

QUAINT SANS LUIS REY MISSION BEING RESTORED TO ITS BEAUTY



A CEMENT LINED IRRIGATION DITCH.

Palmy Days of the Eighteenth Century Being Revived in Southern California.

WORK OF FRANCISCAN MONKS

They Return to Take Up Work Long Neglected—Fields to be Made Fertile Again.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

LOS ANGELES, CAL., August 20.—The palmy days of the eighteenth century are being revived in Southern California. Brown robed Franciscan monks have reappeared at the ancient mission of San Luis Rey, fifty miles north of San Diego, a citadel of strength and a haven of rest in the early days. But for two generations this mission has been almost entirely deserted, until in recent years it has become a mere picturesque ruin, its gray walls and arches crumbling, and its capacious halls and lofty towers abandoned and silent—a decaying monument of the former glory of Spain's Church and state.

Beginning about the middle of the eighteenth century the Franciscans created a chain of their mission settlements, extending from San Diego, near the Mexican border, to Sonoma, north of San Francisco. They were located about one day's journey apart, to convenience travelers, but this feature was only incidental to the great spiritual, educational and economic work which they did for California before the time of the American occupation.

In Beautiful Spots.

The mission fathers selected the most fertile spots in beautifully sheltered valleys for their settlements. Here they built their churches, founded their schools and established communities which took firm root upon the soil. Each community was made self-sufficient and self-sustaining. The useful arts and trades were taught and carried on. Within the shadow of the church, artisans and skilled workmen labored at their various tasks. Water was brought in irrigation ditches from the nearest stream flowing from the snow-capped Sierras, and field, orchard and garden, reclaimed from the desert, yielded of their abundance. The Franciscans were the teachers of the irrigation of the Southwest, and this is perhaps the deepest and most lasting mark which they left on California's civilization.

This new activity at San Luis Rey has come as an entire surprise to the quiet neighborhood. Patriotic Americans have been engaged for some years past in an effort to preserve some of the old missions from further decay, and even to restore them, to a certain extent. But those most familiar with this work did not dream that the industrious followers of St. Francis would ever return to make practical use of the old landmarks. Even now it is not known but that the movement is to extend to other historic spots.

Return of the Monks.

However that may be, the gentle brotherhood has come back to San Luis Rey. The old church has been repaired and services are again held beneath its venerable roof. The cloisters are being rebuilt and the irrigation aqueducts reconstructed. The fields will be tilled again and yield the same loyal support to the community.

The leader in the movement is Father O'Keefe, who came unheralded from Mexico and quietly set out upon the restoration of the old landmark. His fellow-laborers are all members of the Franciscan order and perform their heavy manual work in the brown cassocks that were familiar to generations now passed and forgotten. Father O'Keefe does not expect to revive the former economic life of the settlement in all its amplitude. Much has happened since his predecessors toiled and taught and ruled in these lovely Southern valleys. Modern people have come with modern improvements, and there is now no need of the paternal scheme which did so much for the simple population of the country a century or more ago. Father O'Keefe's plan is to convert the old mission into a self-sustaining Franciscan college. Thus the spiritual and educational work will live again, but the social and economic features will not be restored, beyond what is necesary to meet the necessities of the Monks themselves.

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Pioneers of Civilization.

The Mission Fathers were the pioneers of European civilization among the coast hills of California. They supplied leadership and instruction to those who were engaged in founding homes and wresting a living from the gaunt appearing desert. The work which they began must still be continued, and upon a vastly larger scale, but it has passed to other hands—to the government of America and to an army of settlers who come from all parts of the world. The government is supplying both the capital and the expert knowledge needed in this conquest of the desert. It is laying the foundation of prosperity, pointing the way, and inviting the people to enter into their heritage. While its resources are far greater than those of the devoted missionaries who planted the seed of California, its spirit is much the same. It is helping the people to help themselves.

In one respect the mission fathers were better situated than Uncle Sam. They could locate their settlements in the "sooner," the speculator or the land-choicest spots without encountering the grabber who had antiipated them by filing on the property under preposterous land laws. The cream of the country was open to the real settler and homebuilder in those days. There will be many a new "Mission" founded in California—in the whole great West—missions dedicated to industry, thrift and the satisfaction of that craving for homes upon the soil which is a healthy American characteristic. But the future of these "misions" depends in large measure upon the intelligence of Congress as a guardian and trustee of its children who are to build up and ocupy these productive lands. Under existing laws, speculators are taking up in single entries from four to eight times as much land as is reasonably necessary for the support of a family. They are getting title to this land without living upon it for a day or an hour, since the laws do not require them to do so. While the richest agricultural lands are being rapidly acquired for speculation and monopoly under one law, the splendid forests which clothe the Western mountains are being consolidated into great holdings, under another law, to be held against the needs of coming generations. These things are nothing less than a crime against the children of the United States.